(c) whether Government have conducted any survey as to how the archaeological site got submerged into the deep water; if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI): (a) and (b)The National Institute of Ocean Technology (NIOT), Chennai while carrying out under water surveys of the Gujarat coast during October, 2000-March, 2001 located some archaeological sites in the Gulf of Cambay at 30 to 40 meters water depth. The surveys have picked up images that suggest geometric objects which are normally man made. The surveys suggest a stretch of formation typical of a riverine regime. The archaeological sites have not yet been dated.

(c) No, Sir. However, detailed surveys and studies would be taken up jointly by the National Institute of Ocean Technology (NIOT), Chennai and the National Institute of Oceanography (NIO), Goa.

Railway City Ticket/Parcel Agencies to Single Person/Family

*368. SHRI LAKKHIRAM AGARWAL: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of cases and the names of cities where Commercial Division of Northern Railway allotted more than two Railway city ticket/parcel agencies to one person/family, before 31st May, 2001; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI NITISH KUMAR): (a) Railway city booking agencies for parcel as well as ticket booking are allotted by inviting applications through press advertisements, and the contracts are awarded to the most suitable applicant. The details of relationship between two agents at different locations is neither asked for nor maintained.

(b) Does not arise.

Inadequate Platforms at Patna Junction

*369. SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the space on the existing platforms at Patna Railway Junction is not adequate to cope with the heavy rush of passengers; and

(b) if so, whether Government are considering to build more platforms there, to accommodate more passengers and to avoid congestion during arrival and departure of trains?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI NITISH KUMAR): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Two additional platforms at Patna will be constructed. The work of new passenger terminal at Rajendranagar is also in progress. This after completion would further reduce congestion at Patna due to origination/ termination of some of the trains from Rajendranagar.

Funds for conversion of Kolar-Chikkaballapur Rail Line

*370. SHRI H.K. JAVARE GOWDA:

PROF. A. LAKSHMISAGAR:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Ministry is releasing funds for conversion of metre gauge rail line from Kolar to Chikkaballapur into broad gauge, which has been pending for more than ten years; and

(b) if so, the details thereof; if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI NITISH KUMAR): (a) No, Sir.

(b) A survey for conversion of the narrow gauge rail line to broad gauge from Kolar to Chickkballapur has been recently completed. As per the survey report, the cost of conversion of 85 km long line has been assessed as Rs. 53.45 cr. with negative rate of return. Due to unremunerative nature of the line and constraint of resources, it has not been found feasible to consider the proposal for the present.

Grants to A.N.S.I.S.S.

*371. SHRI R.S. GAVAI: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Indian Council of Social Science Research, New Delhi, has reduced its grant to A.N. Sinha Institute of Social Studies (ANSISS) during the last few years; if not, the reasons therefor;

(b) the grants provided to ANSISS during the last three years;

(c) whether Government have asked the State Government to submit any revival plan for the Institute; and